

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/693,607
Applicant : Brian E. Le Gette
Filed : October 27, 2003
TC/A.U. : 3765
Examiner : Sutton, Andrew W.
Confirmation No. : 6475
Docket No. : 0100.0020C1
Title : Ear Warmer Having a Curved Ear Portion

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

CONCISE EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

The following explanations are provided in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)(i). The Applicants note that most of the explanations included below are based on machine translations of the native language abstracts and/or a review of one or more figures contained in the cited information.

Japanese Publication 1-125320U

Japanese Publication 1-125320U, published August 25, 1989, appears to disclose an earmuff body with an outer cover part 2A and an inner cover part 2B. The outer cover part 2A includes an annular outer frame 6 and a fluffed warming sheet 9. The inner cover part 2B includes an annular inner frame 7, a fluffed warming sheet 10, and a pressing ring 8 that is fitted into the annular inner frame 7. The inner cover part 2B is forcedly pressed into the outer cover part 2A for form one end 7a of the annular inner frame 7.

Japanese Publication 58-37289U

Japanese Publication 58-37289U, published March 10, 1983, appears to disclose a headphone 1 with a left headphone unit 2L and a right headphone unit 2R. The headphone units have ear pads 3L and 3R, respectively, and are connected by an arm 4. The units 2L and 2R are connected to a headphone jack 6 by a cord 5 via a control unit 7.

Japanese Publication 58-54191U

Japanese Publication 58-54191U, published April 13, 1983, appears to disclose a headphone device 1 with left and right headphone units 2. The headphone device 1 includes a headband 3 with left and right ends 3a and 3b. Holder support members 4 are provided with slide grooves 4a that are used to allow both ends 3a of the headband 3 to be

slidable. The headband 3 is provided with stoppers 5 and 5' serving as protrusion portions for regulating a movement range and preventing the removal of the holder support members 4.

Japanese Publication 56-146719U

Japanese Publication 56-146719U, published November 5, 1981, appears to disclose an earmuff with an earmuff main body 1, a pair of protruding upper and lower elastic tongues 4 that are disposed in a longitudinal long hole 3. A guide 5 is formed across an intermediate portion of a length of the long hole 3. A headband 6 has band-like insertion parts 7 formed at both ends of the headband 6. Each of the insertion parts 7 is inserted into the guide 5 of an earmuff main body 1 and is sandwiched under pressure between the elastic tongues 4. Several positioning lugs 8 are provided on an outer surface of the insertion parts 7.

Japanese Publication 56-164218U

Japanese Publication 56-164218U, published December 5, 1981, appears to disclose a light-shielding cover with earmuffs. The cover includes an arc-shaped head holder formed in an elastic component, a light-shielding cover, and earmuffs 3. The head holder and the light-shielding cover are attached to be free to collapse at positions of the earmuffs.

Japanese Publication 58-182594U

Japanese Publication 58-182594U, published December 5, 1983, appears to disclose a headband of an earmuff, a headphone, or the like. The headband 1 includes two arc-shaped spring members 3 each having a cylindrical portion 2 provided at one end thereof and disposed such that one of the arc-shaped spring members 3 is loosely inserted into the cylindrical portion 2 of the other arc-shaped spring member 3. A connection piece 4 is connected to each spring member 3 and includes a hinge mechanism 6 attaching it to an earmuff body 5.

Dated: November 16, 2009

Respectfully submitted by:

EDELL, SHAPIRO & FINNAN, LLC
CUSTOMER NO. 27896
1901 Research Boulevard, Suite 400
Rockville, MD 20850
(301) 424-3640

/ Thomas W. Lynch /
Thomas W. Lynch
Reg. No. 42,820